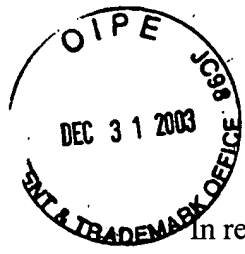


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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q59177

Masato SHIMADA, et al.

Appln. No. 09/599,440

Group Art Unit: 3729

Confirmation No. 7701

Examiner: Alan BOSWELL

Filed: June 22, 2000

For: INK-JET PRINTER HEAD AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

RECEIVED
JAN 09 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 57-063270, published April 16, 1982.
2. Japanese Patent Application No. 07-137266, published May 30, 1995.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/599,440

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant states that:

Japanese Patent Publication No. 57-63270 is directed to a nozzle plate, and Japanese Patent Publication No. 07-137266 does not disclose forming a channel and/or a recess.

In addition, Applicant submits an English abstract for JP 57-63270; and Applicant submits a computer-generated translation (available from JPO website) and English abstract for JP 07-137266.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 31, 2003